



Serial No.: 10/068,914  
Docket No.: 504576.053

RECEIPT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Inventor(s) : Brett A. Sneed  
Serial No. : 10/068,914  
Filing Date : February 7, 2002  
Title : PROTECTIVE FLOORING UNIT WITH FLAP

Group/Art Unit : 1772  
Examiner : Not yet assigned  
Confirmation No. : 9405

Atty. Docket No. : 504576.053

**TRANSMITTAL LETTER**

Commissioner for Patents  
Office of Initial Patent Examination's  
Customer Service Center  
Washington, D.C. 20231

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APR 12 2002  
TC 1700

Dear Sir:

Applicant's counsel acknowledges receipt of the Filing Receipt and requests correction of the Domestic Priority Data. A copy of the Filing Receipt with the change noted thereon is enclosed.

Please correct the Domestic Priority Data as Claimed by Applicant to:

-- THIS APPLICATION CLAIMS BENEFIT OF 29/117,377 01/21/2000 -- .

A copy of page 2 of the application and Utility Patent Application Transmittal as filed on February 7, 2002, for the above-captioned application is enclosed for your convenience.

**Certificate of Mailing**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Office of Initial Patent Examination's Customer Service Center, Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on:

Date: March 22 2002  
Signature: Beth Fowler

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any additional amount required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-4409.

Acknowledgment of receipt is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 

Penny R. Slicer, Reg. No. 34,017  
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Attorney for Applicant



## UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING DATE	GRP ART UNIT	FIL FEE REC'D	ATTY. DOCKET NO	DRAWINGS	TOT CLAIMS	IND CLAIMS
10/068,914	02/07/2002	1772	421	504576.053	3	21	4

CONFIRMATION NO. 9405

## FILING RECEIPT



\*OC000000007564439\*

27910  
STINSON, MAG & FIZZELL, P.C.  
ATTN: PENNY R. SLICER  
1201 WALNUT STREET, SUITE 2800  
P.O. BOX 419251  
KANSAS CITY, MO 64141-6251

Date Mailed: 03/01/2002

Receipt is acknowledged of this nonprovisional Patent Application. It will be considered in its order and you will be notified as to the results of the examination. Be sure to provide the U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING DATE, NAME OF APPLICANT, and TITLE OF INVENTION when inquiring about this application. Fees transmitted by check or draft are subject to collection. Please verify the accuracy of the data presented on this receipt. If an error is noted on this Filing Receipt, please write to the Office of Initial Patent Examination's Customer Service Center. Please provide a copy of this Filing Receipt with the changes noted thereon. If you received a "Notice to File Missing Parts" for this application, please submit any corrections to this Filing Receipt with your reply to the Notice. When the USPTO processes the reply to the Notice, the USPTO will generate another Filing Receipt incorporating the requested corrections (if appropriate).

## Applicant(s)

Brett A. Sneed, Overland Park, KS;

## Domestic Priority data as claimed by applicant

THIS APPLICATION CLAIMS BENEFIT OF 29/117,377 01/21/2000

## Foreign Applications

If Required, Foreign Filing License Granted 03/01/2002

Projected Publication Date: 08/07/2003

Non-Publication Request: No

Early Publication Request: No

\*\* SMALL ENTITY \*\*

## Title

Protective flooring unit with flap

## Preliminary Class

428

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**PROTECTIVE FLOORING UNIT WITH FLAP**  
**CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS**

[0001] This application claims priority on U.S. Design Patent Application Serial No. 29/117,377, filed on January 21, 2000, which is hereby incorporated herein by reference.

**STATEMENT REGARDING FEDERALLY SPONSORED  
RESEARCH OR DEVELOPMENT**

[0002] Not Applicable.

**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

[0003] 1. FIELD OF THE INVENTION

[0004] The present invention is generally directed to the field of flooring, and is more specifically directed to a protective flooring unit having a flap along its outer edge which enables a second flooring unit to be laid continuous with the first flooring unit so as to form a relatively uninterrupted protective floor covering that is easy to install, clean and remove if desired.

[0005] 2. DESCRIPTION OF RELATED ART

[0006] Garages, basements, utility rooms and other home and industrial work areas commonly have concrete or tile floors. While these floors can be washed or swept, it is often desirable to place a floor covering within the work area to capture spills and debris for easier clean-up and to prevent staining.

[0007] Thin plastic sheeting or tarps are commonly used for temporary floor protection. These tarps are generally resistant to stains and can be cleaned with water and detergents. Tarps are also fairly light weight so that they can be picked up and compactly folded for storage when not in use. Because they are relatively light weight and smooth, however, spilled liquid or debris tends to run off the sides onto the floor, particularly if the sheeting gets wrinkled or moved

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Attorney Docket No.: 504576.053  
Express Mail Label No.: EV 044702855 US

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

First Named Inventor: Brett A. Sneed

Title: PROTECTIVE FLOORING UNIT WITH FLAP

**UTILITY PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.53(b)**

Box PATENT APPLICATION  
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This is a request for filing a Utility Patent Application under 37 C.F.R. 1.53(b).

**Continuing Application Information:**

- ☐ Continuation      ☐ Divisional      ☐ Continuation-in-Part (CIP)
- ☒ Prior U.S. Application Serial No.: 29/117,377, filed January 21, 2000, and is hereby incorporated by reference.

**Prior Application Information:**

- ☒ Examiner: T. Chase Nelson  
☒ Group/Art Unit: 2913

**Application Elements:**

- ☒ Application transmittal containing Fee Calculation and Certificate of Mailing by "Express Mail".  
☒ A check in the amount of \$421.00 to cover the application filing fee.  
☒ Applicant claims small entity status.  
☒ Specification, Claims (1-21) and Abstract of the Disclosure (16 total pages).  
☒ Informal drawings (3 total sheets).  
☒ Declaration and Power of Attorney (1 document) (2 total pages).  
☒ Newly-executed original copy.  
☐ Copy[ies] from a prior application pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.63(d).  
☐ The Declaration[s] was/were filed prior to December 1, 1997. The inventor[s] post office address[es] is/are: [Post Office Address]

**Certificate of Mailing by "Express Mail" (37 C.F.R. 1.10)**

Express Mail Label No.: EV 044702855 US

Date of Deposit: February 7, 2002

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service on the date indicated above and is addressed to Box PATENT APPLICATION, Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Name: Cynthia L. Maust

Signature: Cynthia L. Maust

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any additional amount required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-4409.

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- ☐ Signed Statement attached deleting inventor(s) named in the prior application (37 C.F.R. 1.63(d)(2) and 1.33(b)).

**Accompanying Application Parts:**

- ☐ Assignment Recordation Form Cover Sheet and Assignment (1 document).  
☐ A check in the amount of \$40.00 to cover the Assignment recordation filing fee.

**Documents reflecting change in Power of Attorney/Correspondence Address.**

- ☐ [Revocation of] Power of Attorney [and Appointment of New Power of Attorney] [by Assignee].  
☐ Certificate Under 37 C.F.R. § 3.73(b) (where there is an Assignee).  
☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)/PTO-1449.  
☐ Copies of IDS Citations.  
☐ A Petition for Extension of Time is being filed concurrently in the prior application.  
☐ Preliminary Amendment.  
☐ Petition to Make Special Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.102(c).  
☒ Itemized Return Receipt Post Card.  
☐ Certified copy of priority document(s) (if foreign priority is claimed).  
☐ Nonpublication Request Under 35 U.S.C. 122(b)(2)(B)(i).  
☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Fee Calculation:**

	Filed				Extra		Rate		Calculations
Basic Fee									\$740
Total Claims	21	-	20	=	1	x	\$18	=	18
Independent Claims	4	-	3	=	1	x	\$84	=	84
Multiple Dependent Claims (one time fee)					0	x	\$280	=	0
<b>Total Fee:</b>									<b>\$842</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Small Entity Fee Reduction of 50%:									<b>\$421</b>

Direct all correspondence to: ☒ Customer Number 27910



27910

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.10 and 1.53(a), Applicant respectfully requests that this application be assigned a serial number and a filing date of **February 7, 2002**, the date upon which the Application was mailed to the United States Patent and Trademark Office by Express Mail.

Acknowledgment of receipt is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 

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